

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 003321

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR EA QUINN ONLY FROM TIM0S DIR.

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAID, SHUM

SUBJECT: INDONESIA REACTIONS TO NYTIMES ARTICLE

REF: JAKARTA 0043

1. REFTEL (BEING REPEATED HKONG) REPORTS WIDJOJO'S COMMENTS ON INDONESIA REACTION TO RECENT NYTIMES ARTICLE CONCERNING PL-480 AND HUMAN RIGHTS. THEY ARE SUCCINCT AND CLEAR PROOF OF CURRENT AND POTENTIAL DAMAGE THAT CAN BE DONE TO HUMAN RIGHTS OBJECTIVES IN INDONESIA BY INACCURATE OR INSENSITIVE STATEMENTS. REFTEL ARRIVED AFTER DEPT PARTICIPANTS HAD DEPARTED FOR HKONG. I BELIEVE DICK OR BOB MAY WISH CONSIDER BRINGING IT TO ATTENTION OF HA PRINCIPAL IN SOME MANNER, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE UNDERSTAND HA STAFF HAS PREPARED SUPPLEMENTARY BRIEFING MATERIAL INCLUDING TALKING POINTS WHICH MAY BE PROVOCATIVE IN TONE.
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2. ALONG THAT LINE, PROPOSED SCHEDULES FOR HA VISITS TO THAILAND AND INDONESIA EVIDENCE THAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS (DESPITE UNCERTAINTIES) HAVE TAKEN OUR RECOMMENDATIONS SERIOUSLY AND ARE PREPARING TO AFFORD GOOD ACCESS TO PRISONERS AND LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS INTERESTS. PROPOSED SCHEDULES ARE A TESTAMENT TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND

THE EFFECTIVE DIPLOMACY OF THE US AND FOREIGN OFFICIALS

INVOLVED. HOPE THIS DEGREE OF COOPERATION WILL BE
RECOGNIZED AND UNDERSTOOD AS THE POSITIVE HUMAN RIGHTS
ELEMENT IT IS. CHRISTOPHER

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